(a) whether it is fact that the country needs a uniform labour policy acceptable to all;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that different labour laws have been implemented by different departments in the name of labour reforms; and

(d) if so, the details of such departments indicating the variation in labour laws applicable therein?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour and Employment is mandated to create a work environment conducive to achieving a high rate of economic growth with due regard to protecting and safeguarding the interests of the workers. The Ministry seeks to achieve this objective through implementation of an array of labour legislations. India's labour policy is mainly based on labour laws. The Ministry has always been committed to the ethos and culture of tripartism. The Ministry continues to have consultation with the social partners to obtain a consensus for enacting new laws or bringing about changes in the existing laws.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Unorganised Sector Worker's Social Security Scheme

*248. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Unorganised Sector Worker's Social Security Scheme launched by his Ministry during 2004;

(b) how many members have been enrolled under the said scheme and the amount of contributions realized; and

(c) how much expenditure has incurred so far for implementing the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) The Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Scheme, 2004 launched in January 2004 on pilot basis in fifty districts of the country has since been closed.

(b) About 3500 workers have been enrolled under the scheme and around Rs. 17.5 lakh was collected as contribution.

(c) The contributions received from workers under the scheme have been utilised towards making premium payments under the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS) and personal accident insurance scheme for the relevant period.

Abolition of child labour

*249. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to abolish child labour in the country within a time bound programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any financial aid from the World Bank, International Labour Organisation and UNICEF for abolition of child labour; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent these financial aids are found to be helpful in achieving the goal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Government is committed to the goal of eradication of child labour in all its forms beginning with children working in hazardous occupations/processes. In this direction, Government is implementing the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) in 250 districts of 21 states in the country. Under the scheme children withdrawn from work are put into the Special Schools where these children are provided basis education, vocational training,